

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for applying a layer of a second material to a layer of a nanocrystalline first material ~~in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 1~~, comprising:
 - a tubular dispensing means ~~to be~~ disposed horizontally and provided with lateral outlet openings,
 - a liquid container, and
 - conduit means for carrying liquid from the liquid container to the dispensing means.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising displacing means for displacing the dispensing means and the layer of nanocrystalline material relative to each other in lateral horizontal direction of the dispensing means.
4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, the displacing means comprise a carrier displaceable in horizontal direction relative to the dispensing means for carrying and displacing a layer of nanocrystalline material in lateral direction relative to the dispensing means.
5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, the displacing means comprise an XY table.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising heating means for heating a layer of a nanocrystalline material during performing of the method.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, the tubular dispensing means is connected at a first outer end to a first liquid supply line and is closed at a second outer end.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, the tubular dispensing means is connected at a first outer end to a first liquid supply line, and is connected at a second outer end to a liquid circulation line or a second liquid supply line.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, the lateral outlet openings are provided in the top side of a horizontally disposed tubular dispensing means.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, the tubular dispensing means has a circular outer periphery in vertical cross-section.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, the conduit means comprise a liquid metering pump.

12. (New) An apparatus for applying a layer of a second material to a layer of a nanocrystalline first material, said layer of a nanocrystalline first material being provided on a horizontal substrate, said apparatus comprising:

a liquid container for containing a liquid with the second material;

a tubular dispensing means disposed horizontally and provided with a number of lateral outlet openings; and

conduit means for carrying liquid from the liquid container to the dispensing means.

13. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the tubular dispensing means is connected at a first outer end to a first liquid supply line, and is connected at a second outer end to a second liquid supply line.

14. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the tubular dispensing means is connected at a first outer end to a first liquid supply line, and is connected at a second outer end to a liquid circulation line.

15. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the lateral outlet openings are provided in the top side of a horizontally disposed tubular dispensing means.

16. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the tubular dispensing means has a circular outer periphery in vertical cross-section.

17. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the conduit means comprise a liquid metering pump.

18. (New) An apparatus for applying a layer of a second material to a layer of a nanocrystalline first material, said layer of a nanocrystalline first material being provided on a horizontal substrate, said apparatus comprising:

a liquid container for containing a liquid with the second material;

a tubular dispensing means disposed horizontally and provided with a number of lateral outlet openings, said lateral outlet openings being provided in the top side of the dispensing means; and

conduit means for carrying liquid from the liquid container to the dispensing means.

19. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the tubular dispensing means is connected at a first outer end to a first liquid supply line, and is connected at a second outer end to a second liquid supply line.

20. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the tubular dispensing means is connected at a first outer end to a first liquid supply line, and is connected at a second outer end to a liquid circulation line.